

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 An entirely self-contained, patient-worn apparatus  
for deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prophylaxis, and other  
conditions includes an inflatable/deflatable bladder disposed  
against an extremity such as the upper calf, foot, or hand of  
a patient, or within a cast. An inelastic member is  
preferably used to fully enclose the bladder and body part,  
such that compressive forces are directed substantially  
entirely against the body part of the patient when the bladder  
10 expands, thereby conserving the power and reducing the volume  
of pneumatic compression required to operate the device.  
Given this conservation of energy, the invention may be  
battery operated from a source immediately proximate to the  
bladder arrangement, enabling the entire device to be self-  
15 contained and, in fact, worn by the patient. The reduced  
volume also allows the use of miniaturized components  
including the compressor motor and compressor.